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present

# Bach Aria Group

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Samuel Baron, flute  
Robert Bloom, oboe  
Norman Farrow, bass-baritone  
Bernard Greenhouse, cello

Lorna Haywood, soprano  
Lois Marshall, alto  
Seth McCoy, tenor  
Charles Treger, violin

Yehudi Wyner, piano

macmillan theatre,  
edward johnson building

8:30 p.m.

sunday, october 31, 1976

# A Program of Arias and Duets from the Cantatas of

## JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

(1685-1750)

*Translations and Notes prepared by William H. Scheide*

Bach's main work, in quantity and quality, is the music, mainly cantatas, which he wrote for the services of the Lutheran churches of Leipzig. He never published any of it and the numbers by which the church cantatas are most readily identified merely show their position in the complete edition of his works which appeared over one hundred years after his death. The interlineated translations have no other object than to set forth as boldly as possible the meaning of the German text. The word "continuo" refers to the piano and cello.

### I. Group of Arias

#### 1. Chorale from Cantata 8

*Herrscher über Tod und Leben,*  
Ruler over death and life,

*Mach' einmal mein Ende gut,*  
Only make my end good,

*Lehre mich den Geist aufgeben*  
Teach me to give up the spirit

*Mit recht wohlgefasstem Mut.*  
With right well collected courage.

*Hilf, dass ich ein ehrlich Grab*  
Help, that I have an honorable grave

*Neben frommen Christen hab'*  
Beside pious Christians

*Und auch endlich in der Erde*  
And also finally in the earth

*Nimmermehr zu Schanden werde.*  
Nevermore be confounded.

#### 2. Aria from Cantata 14 for bass, oboe, violin and continuo

*Gott, bei deinem starken Schützen*  
God, by thy strong protection

*Sind wir vor den Feinden frei.*  
We are free from our enemies.

*Wenn sie sich als wilde Wellen*  
When they like wild waves

*Uns aus Grimm entgegenstellen,*  
Out of wrath array themselves against us,

*Da er noch bei unserm Samen*  
There He still to our descendants  
*An der Väter Bund gedacht.*  
Is mindful of the covenant with our fathers.

3. Aria from Cantata 94 for alto, flute and continuo

*Betörte Welt!*  
Deluded world!  
*Auch dein Reichtum, Gut und Geld*  
Even your riches, goods and money  
*Ist Betrug und falscher Schein.*  
Are deceit and false appearances.  
*Du magst den eitlen Mammon zählen,*  
You may reckon up vain Mammon,  
*Ich will dafür mir Jesum wählen;*  
I will instead for myself choose Jesus;  
*Jesus, Jesus, soll allein*  
Jesus, Jesus, shall alone  
*Meiner Seele Reichtum sein.*  
Of my soul the riches be.

4. Aria from Cantata 84 for soprano, oboe, violin and continuo

*Ich esse mit Freuden mein wenig Brot*  
I eat with joy my bit of bread  
*Und gönne dem Nächsten von Herzen das seine.*  
And am glad to let my neighbour have what is his.  
*Ein ruhig Gewissen, ein fröhlicher Geist*  
A quiet conscience, a happy spirit,  
*Ein dankbares Herze, das Lobet und preist,*  
A thankful heart, that praises and glorifies,  
*Vermehret den Segen, versüßet die Not.*  
Increases blessing, sweetens distress.

5. Aria from Cantata 97 for bass and continuo

*Nichts ist es spät und frühe*  
There is no end  
*Um alle meine Mühe,*  
To all my efforts,  
*Mein Sorgen ist umsonst.*  
My cares are in vain.  
*Er mag's mit meinen Sachen*  
He may dispose my affairs



*Ist auch meiner eingedenk*

Is also mindful of me

*Und wird ob mir täglich neue*

And becomes for me new every day

*Durch manch' Vaterliebsgeschenk.*

Through many a gift of fatherly love.

II. From the secular cantata "Der zufriedengestellte Aeolus"  
composed for the birthday of Professor August Mueller  
of Leipzig University in 1725.

Characters in order of performance:

Aeolus, king of the winds	.....	bass
Zephyr	.....	tenor
Pomona, goddess of fruits	.....	alto
Pallas	.....	soprano

*(Please do not applaud during the performance of the selections from  
the secular Cantata "Der Zufriedengestellte Aeolus")*

Aeolus gleefully anticipates the destruction that will be wrought by his fierce winds when he releases them from their cavern. Zephyr and Pomona beg him not to let them out but all entreaties are vain until Pallas informs him that such a commotion would spoil Professor Mueller's birthday party. This is too much for Aeolus who grants their request, whereupon the other three are very relieved and happy.

1. Aria for Aeolus, flute, oboe, violin and continuo

*Wie will ich lustig lachen,*

How hilariously will I laugh,

*Wenn Alles durcheinander geht!*

When everything goes in confusion!

*Wenn selbst der Fels nicht sicher steht*

When even the cliff does not stand secure

*Und wenn die Dächer krachen.*

And when the roofs crash in.

2. Recitative for Zephyr and continuo

*Gefurchter Aeolus,*

Oh, fearful Aeolus,

*Dem ich im Schoosse gonsten liege,*

In whose lap I once lay,

*Und deine Ruh' vernuege,*

And enjoyed thy rest,

*Lass deinen harten Schluss*

Let thy hard decision

*Mich doch nicht allzu frueh erschrecken;*

Not all too early terrify me;

*Verziehe, lass in dir*

Withdraw it, let in thee

*Aus Gunst zu mir,*

As a favor to me,

*Ein Mitleid noch erwecken.*

Sympathy yet awake.

3. Aria for Zephyr, violin, cello and continuo

*Frische Schatten, mein Freude,*

Oh fresh shades, my joy,

*Sehet, wie ich schmerzlich scheide,*

See, how painfully I part

*Kommt, bedauert meine Schmach.*

Come, lament my shame.

*Windet euch, verwaisten Zweige,*

Rustle ye desolate twigs,

*Ach! ich schweige,*

Ah, I am silent,

*Sehet mir nur jammernd nach.*

Only gaze grieving after me.

4. Recitative for Aeolus and continuo

*Beinahe wirst du mich bewegen.*

Almost will you move me.

*Wie? seh' ich nicht Pomona hier,*

What? Do I not see Pomona here,

*Und, wo mir recht, die Pallas auch bei ihr?*

And, if I am right, Pallas also with her?

*Sagt, Werte, sagt, was fordert ihr von mir?*

Say, worthy one, say what would you ask of me?

*Euch ist gewiss sehr viel daran gelegen.*

For surely you are very much concerned about it.

5. Aria for Pomona, oboe and continuo

*Können nicht die roten Wangen,*

Cannot the red cheeks

*Womit meine Früchte prangen,*

With which my fruits shine,

*Dein ergrimmtes Herze fangen,*  
Capture thy furious heart,

*Ach, so sage, kannst du seh'n,*  
Ah, just say, can't you see

*Wie die Blaetter von den Zweigen*  
How the leaves from the twigs

*Sich betruebt zur Erde beugen,*  
Bow sadly down to earth

*Um ihr Elend abzuneigen,*  
In order to avert their misery

*Das an ihnen soll gescheh'n.*  
That is to happen to them.

#### 6. Recitative for Pomona, Pallas and continuo

Pomona:

*So willst du, grimm'ger Aeolus,*  
So wilt thou, wrathful Aeolus,

*Gleich wie ein Fels und Stein*  
Just like a cliff and rock

*Bei meinen Bitten sein?*  
Be to my request?

Pallas:

*Wohlan! ich will und muss auch meine Seufzer wagen,*  
Very well! I will and must also dare my sobs,

*Vielleicht wird mir,*  
Perhaps will to me

*Was er, Pomona, dir*  
What he, Pomona, to thee

*Stillschweigend abgeschlagen,*  
Silently rejected,

*Von ihm gewaehrt.*  
By him be granted.

Both:

*Wohl; wenn er gegen (mich/dich) sich guetiger erKlaert.*  
Good! if he to (me/you) declares himself kinder.

#### 7. Aria for Pallas, violin and continuo

*Angenehmer Zephyrus, dein Bisam reicher Kuss,*  
Delightful Zephyr, thy kiss rich in scent of musk,

*Und dein lauschend' Kuehlen soll auf meinen Hoehen spielen.*  
And thy listening coolness shall play upon my heights.

*Grosser Koenig Aeolus, sage doch dem Zephyrus,*  
Great King, Aeolus, just say to Zephyr,

*Das sein bisamreicher Kuss und sein lauschend' Kuehlen*  
That his musk-rich kiss and his listening coolnesses

*Soll auf meinen Hoehen spielen.*  
Shall play upon my heights.

8. Recitative for Pallas, Aeolus, flute, violin and continuo

Pallas:

*Mein Aeolus, ach stoere nicht die Froehlichkeiten,*  
My Aeolus, ah, do not spoil the festivities,

*Weil meiner Musen Helicon ein Fest,*  
Since my muses' helicon has planned

*Ein' angenehme Feier auf seinen Gipfeln angestellt.*  
A feast, a pleasant celebration upon his heights.

Aeolus:

*So sage mir: warum denn dir besonders dieser Tag so teuer,*  
Then tell me why this day especially seems to you so

*So wert und heilig faellt? — O Nachteil und Verdruss!*  
Precious, so worthy and sacred? (aside) Oh nuisance!

*Soll ich denn eines Weibes willen*  
And annoyance! shall I then carry out a woman's will

*In meinen Regiment erfuellen? —*  
With my commands?

Pallas:

*Mein Mueller, mein August, der Pierinnen Freud' und Lust,*  
My Mueller, my August, the Muses' joy and delight,

Aeolus:

*Dein Mueller, dein August!*  
Your Mueller, your August!

Pallas:

*Und mein geliebter Sohn*  
And my beloved son

Aeolus:

*Dein Mueller, dein August!*  
Your Mueller, your August!

Pallas:

*Erlebet die vergnuegten Zeiten*  
Comes now upon delightful times

*Da ihm die Ewigkeit sein weiser Name prophezeit.*  
Since his wise name prophesies eternity for him.

Aeolus:

*Dein Mueller! dein August! der Pierinnen Freud' und Lust,*  
Your Mueller! your August! the Muses' joy and delight,

*Und dein geliebter Sohn erlebet die vergnuegten Zeiten,*  
And your beloved son comes now upon delightful times,



*Da ihm die Ewigkeit sein weiser Name prophezeit?*  
Since his wise name prophesies eternity for him?

*Wohlan! ich lasse mich bezwingen,*  
Very well, I let myself be convinced,

*Euer Wunsch soll euch gelingen.*  
Your wish shall be granted.

9. Arioso and recitative for Pallas, Pomona, Zephyr and continuo

All:

*Was Lust! Was Freude! Welch' Vergnuegen*  
What delight! what joy! what pleasure!

*Entstehet in der Brust,*  
Arises in the breast,

*Dass sich nach unsrer Lust*  
That according to our desire

*Die Wuensche muessen fuegen.*  
The wishes must work themselves out.

Zephyr:

*So kann ich mich bei gruenen Zweigen*  
So I can by green twigs

*Noch fernerhin vergnuegt bezeigen.*  
Still show myself delighted.

Pomona:

*So seh ich mein Ergoetzen*  
So I see my pleasure

*An meinen reifen Schaetzen.*  
In my ripe treasures.

Pallas:

*So richt' ich in vergnuegter Ruh,*  
So I prepare in delightful quiet

*Meines Augusts Lustmahl zu.*  
My August's feast.

Pomona and Zephyr:

*Wir sind zu deiner Froehlichkeit*  
We are for your happiness

*Mit gleicher Lust bereit.*  
With similar desire prepared.

10. Duet for Pomona, Zephyr, flute and continuo

Pomona:

*Zweig' und Aeste zollen dir zu deinem Feste*  
Twigs and branches contribute to thy feast



*Ihrer Gaben Ueberfluss.*  
The abundance of their gifts.

Zephyr:

*Und mein Scherzen soll und muss*  
And my happy task shall be  
*Deinem August zu verehren, dieses Tages Lust vermehren.*  
To honor thy August and increase the joy of this day.

Pomona:

*Ich bringe dir Fruechte mit Freuden herbei*  
I bring you fruits with joy

Zephyr:

*Ich bringe mein Lispeln mit Freuden herbei*  
I bring my whisperings with joy

Both:

*Das Alles zum Scherzen vollkommener sei.*  
That everything for jollity may be more complete.

## INTERMISSION

### III. Group of Arias

1. Aria from Cantata 202 for soprano, oboe, cello and piano

*Weichet nur, betrübt Schatten,*  
Yield, melancholy shades,  
*Frost und Winde, geht zur Ruh'!*  
Frost and winds, go to rest!  
*Florens Lust will der Brust*  
Flora's delight will grant to the breast  
*Nichts als frohes Glück verstaten,*  
Nothing but happy good fortune,  
*Denn sie trägt Blumen zu.*  
For she is bringing flowers.

2. Aria from Cantata 29 for tenor, violin and continuo

*Hallelujah, Stärk und Macht,*  
Hallelujah, strength and might,  
*Sei des Allerhöchsten Namen.*  
Be to the All-Highest's name.  
*Zion ist noch seine Stadt,*  
Zion is still His city,  
*Da er seine Wohnung hat,*  
There He has His dwelling,

*Stehn uns deine Hände bei.*  
Thy hands stand by us.

3. Aria from Cantata 70 for alto, cello and continuo

*Wenn kommt der Tag, an dem wir ziehen*  
When comes the day on which we withdraw

*Aus dem Aegypten\* dieser Welt?*  
From the Egypt\* of this world?

*Ach, lasst uns bald aus Sodom fliehen,*  
Ah let us soon flee out of Sodom,

*Eh uns das Feuer überfällt.*  
Before the fire overtakes us.

*Wacht, Seelen, auf von Sicherheit*  
Wake up, souls, from security

*Und glaubt: es ist die letzte Zeit.\*\**  
And believe, it is the last time.\*\*

4. Aria from Cantata 113 for tenor, flute and continuo

*Jesus nimmt die Sünder an:*  
Jesus receives sinners:

*Süsses Wort voll Trost und Leben!*  
Sweet word full of comfort and life!

*Er schenkt die wahre Seelenruh*  
He gives the soul's true rest

*Und ruft jedem tröstlich zu:*  
And calls to each one comfortingly:

*Dein Sünd ist dir vergeben.*  
Thy sin is forgiven thee.

\* Referring to the slavery of the Jews in Egypt and their flight from it.  
\*\* That is: Believe that the end of the world is at hand.

5. Aria from Cantata 187 for soprano, oboe and continuo

*Gott versorget alles Leben,*  
God provides for all life,

*Was hiernieden Odem hegt.*  
Which here below draws breath.

*Sollt' er mir allein nicht geben*  
Shall He not give to me alone

*Was er allen zugesagt?*  
What He has promised to all?

*Weicht, ihr Sorgen seine Treue*  
Yield, ye cares, His faithfulness

*Nach seinem Willen machen,*  
In accordance with his will,  
*Ich stell's in seine Gunst.*  
I place them in his keeping.

**Recitative from Cantata 97 for tenor and continuo**

*Es kann mir nichts geschehen,*  
Nothing can happen to me,  
*Als was er hat ersehen*  
But what He has chosen  
*Und was mir selig ist:*  
And what is blessed for me:  
*Ich nehm' es wie er's giebet;*  
I take it as He gives it:  
*Was ihm von mir beliebt,*  
What He would like for me,  
*Das hab ich auch erkiest.*  
That have I also chosen.

**Aria from Cantata 97 for tenor, violin and continuo**

*Ich traue seiner Gnaden,*  
I trust His grace,  
*Die mich vor allen Schaden,*  
Which shields me from all disgrace,  
*Vor allem Uebel schützt.*  
From all evil.  
*Leb' ich nach seinen Gesetzen,*  
If I live according to His laws,  
*So wird mich nichts verletzen,*  
So will nothing hurt me,  
*Nichts fehlen was mir nützt.*  
Nothing be lacking that is useful to me.

**6. Duet from Cantata 78 for soprano, alto, cello and continuo**

*Wir eilen mit schwachen doch emsigen Schritten,*  
We hasten with weak yet eager steps,  
*O Jesu, O Meister, zu helfen zu dir!*  
O Jesus, o master, for help to you!  
*Du suchest die Kranken und Irrenden treulich.*  
You seek the sick and erring faithfully.  
*Ach! höre wie wir die Stimme erheben*  
Ah hear how we raise our voice



*Um Hilfe zu bitten!*

To ask for help!

*Es sie uns dein gnädiges Antlitz erfreulich!*

May your gracious face make us glad!

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